

Listing of the Claims

Please note the listing of the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A fastening device ~~(14)~~ for lashing one or both of a load, ~~and in particular~~ a container to a ship, comprising: a frame ~~(15)~~ having at least one opening and a first means ~~(27)~~ for connecting to either the ship or the container, a rod ~~(18)~~ with corrugations, said rod being received in and movable through said at least one opening and including a second means for connecting to either the ship or the container, a holding device ~~(20)~~ comprising at least two locking elements ~~(20a, 20b)~~, each locking element including at least one surface comprising one or both of dents or ~~/~~grooves partly or totally corresponding to said corrugations, at least said frame ~~(15)~~ or said holding device ~~(20)~~ being provided with an at least partly tapered shape, and resilient structure means ~~(21)~~ urging said holding device ~~(20)~~ towards said frame ~~(15)~~ and thereby said locking elements ~~(20a, 20b)~~ towards each other.

2. (Currently Amended) A fastening device according to claim 1, wherein said fastening device includes a second rod ~~(25, 27)~~ with shock a absorbing spring ~~means (26) such as a number of plate springs forced against said frame (15).~~

3. (Currently Amended) A fastening device according to claim 1, wherein said frame ~~(15)~~ comprises two longitudinal frame walls ~~(15a, 15b)~~ connected in an upper end by a transverse wall ~~(19)~~ comprising a contact surface for said holding device ~~(20)~~, in ~~the~~ a lower end by a second transverse wall ~~(22b)~~ comprising a contact surface for said shock absorbing spring ~~means (26)~~ and in between by a third transverse section ~~(22)~~ comprising a contact surface for said spring ~~means (21)~~ forcing said holding device ~~(20)~~ against said contact surface of said frame.

4. (Currently Amended) A fastening device according to claim 1, wherein the holding device ~~(20)~~ includes release spring ~~means (36)~~ in between said surfaces comprising one or both of dents or ~~/~~grooves.

5. (Currently Amended) A fastening device according to claim 1, wherein one or both of

the frame (15) and/or said holding device (20) comprises a substantially conical, frustoconical, triangular, pyramidal or a similar tapered shape.

6. (Currently Amended) A fastening device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~dents/grooves~~ of said surface are reversed frustoconical shaped, and/or said rod (18) with corrugations comprises reversed frustoconical sections establishing the corrugations.

7. (Currently Amended) A fastening device according to claim 1, wherein said rod (18) and/or said holding device (20) comprises contact surfaces (24,33) for handling tools.

8. (Currently Amended) A fastening device according to claim 1, wherein said ~~spring~~ resilient structure means (21) is a helical spring.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of establishing a fastening connection between a ship and a container, said method comprising the steps of: connecting a frame of said fastening device to the ship and a rod with corrugations to a lashing bar connected to the container, said rod being movable through and received in ~~the~~ at least one opening of said frame, engaging said rod with corrugations by at least two locking elements of a holding device, at least said frame or said holding device comprising an at least partly tapered shape, and forcing said holding device against said frame by resilient structure means and thereby urging said locking elements against each other.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said holding device or said rod with corrugations is released or tightened by a handling tool engaging with contact surfaces of said holding device or said rod with corrugations.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of use of a fastening device according to claim 1 ~~and method of comprising~~ establishing a fastening connection between at least two locking elements in relation with fastening of cargo ~~such as lashing of shipping containers~~ using the device of claim 1.

12. (Currently Amended) An assembly for securing a container to a ship comprising: a lashing bar connected at one end to the container and at the other end to ~~a~~ the first part of a fastening device, the fastening device ~~comprises~~comprising a second part connected to the ship, the first part and second part being movable relative to one another in the longitudinal direction of ~~a~~ the lashing ~~rod~~ bar; and said fastening device ~~comprises~~including locking ~~means~~ elements that allow the first and second parts to move substantially unhindered towards one another whilst preventing the first and second parts from moving away from one ~~another~~ another.

13. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 12, wherein the first part comprises a corrugated surface, and the locking ~~means~~ elements comprise at least one locking element provided with one or more protrusions for engaging the ~~serrated~~ corrugated surface in the first part.

14. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 13, wherein the engagement between the locking element and the corrugated surface of the first part is self-amplified and self-released upon a load that urges the first part and the second part away from one another .

15. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 14, wherein the engagement between the locking ~~member~~ element and the corrugated surface of the first ~~member~~ part is self-releasing upon a load that urges the first ~~member~~ part and the second ~~member~~ part towards one another.

16. (Original) An assembly according to claim 14, wherein the self-amplification and self-release are caused by a wedge effect.

17. (Original) An assembly according to claim 14, wherein the self-amplification and self-release are caused by a lever effect.

18. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 13, wherein the locking element is ~~urged~~ urged by the resilient ~~means~~ structure to engage with the ~~corrugated~~ corrugated surface in the first part.

19. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 13, wherein the locking element is connected to a release mechanism that moves the locking element against the bias of the resilient ~~means~~structure out of engagement with the corrugated surface of the first part.

20. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 12, wherein the first part comprises a substantially cylindrical member and helical spring disposed coaxially over the cylindrical member, the helical spring engaging and locking the cylindrical member when a load that urges the first part and the second part away from one another is applied, and the helical spring disengaging the cylindrical member ~~the~~ when a load that urges the first part and the second part towards one another is applied.

21. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 20, wherein the cylindrical member is provided with a helical ~~grove~~groove for engaging the helical spring.

22. (Currently Amended) An assembly according to claim 12, wherein the first part is a piston rod of a hydraulic cylinder with two chambers and the second part is the cylinder part of a hydraulic ~~cylindre~~ cylinder or vice versa, the two chambers of the hydraulic cylinder being in fluid communication through a conduit provided with a one way valve allowing fluid to flow between the two chambers~~from one chamber to another~~ when the first part and the second part are moving towards one another, whilst preventing fluid from flowing between the two chambers~~to flow from one chamber to another~~ when the first part and the second part are moving away from another.

23. (Original) An assembly according to claim 22, wherein the chambers are in fluid communication via another conduit provided with an on-off valve.

24. (Currently Amended) A method of uUse of a fastening device comprising establishing a fastening connection between at least two locking elements according to claim 9 in relation with fastening of cargo ~~such as lashing of shipping containers~~ using locking elements of claim 9.